

AP/ 2754

PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/754,001
Filing Date	01/02/01
First Named Inventor	Bright
Art Unit	2175
Examiner Name	Charles Rones
Attorney Docket Number	109911-130424

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Aloysius AuYeung, Reg. No. 35,432 Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt
Signature	
Date	05/21/04

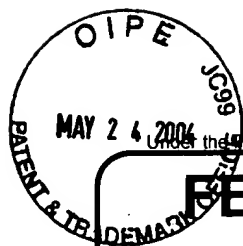
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Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)**165.00**

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/754,001
Filing Date 01/02/01
First Named Inventor Bright
Examiner Name Charles Rones
Art Unit 2175
Attorney Docket No. 109911-130424

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MAY 26 2004

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METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☐ Deposit Account:

Deposit
Account
Number
Deposit
Account
Name

500393

Schwabe Williamson Wyatt

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Credit any overpayments

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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)					(\$)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

		Extra Claims		Fee from below		Fee Paid
Total Claims		-20** =		X		
Independent Claims		-3** =		X		
Multiple Dependent						

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	165.00
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)**165.00**

SUBMITTED BY

(Complete (if applicable))

Name (Print/Type) Aloysius AuYeung
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 35,432
Telephone 503 222 9981
Signature 
Date 5/21/04

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Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application for:

Bright et al

Application No.: 09/754,001

Filed: Jan 02, 2001

For: M&A for Simplified Accesses to
OnLine Services

Examiner: Rones, Charles

Art Group: 2175

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TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEF

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Attention: Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Transmitted herewith in triplicate is Applicant's Appeal Brief.

A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: May 21, 2004



By Aloysius AuYeung, Reg No. 35,432
Attorney for Appellant Applicant

1211 SW Fifth Avenue
Suite 1600-1900
Portland, OR 97204
Tel: (503) 222-9981
Fax: (503) 796-2900



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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In re Application for:

Bright et al

Application No.: 09/754,001

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Appellant's Brief Under 37 C.F.R. §1.192 In Support Of
Appellant's Appeal To The Board Of Patent Appeals And Interferences

Dear Sir:

The Appellant hereby submits this Brief in support of their appeal from a final decision by the Examiner, mailed December 24, 2003, in the above referenced case.

The final decision was in response to arguments filed on October 28, 2003, in response to an earlier final office action, mailed July 29, 2003. Appellant respectfully requests consideration of this appeal by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for allowance of the present patent application.

05/25/2004 DEMMANU1 00000093 09754001

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165.00 OP

(1) Real Party In Interest

The real party in interest is Xoucin, Inc, a corporation having its primary place of business at 550 Kirkland Way, Suite 402, Kirkland, WA 98033.

(2) Related Appeals And Interferences

To the best of Appellants' knowledge, there are no appeals or interferences related to the present appeal, which will directly affect, be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision.

(3) Status Of The Claims

Claims 1-24 remain pending and are reproduced, as pending, in Appendix A.

Claims 1-4, 6, 9-13, 15-20 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Teper at al. USP 5,815,665.

Claims 5, 7-8, 14 and 21 were rejected under 35 USC §103 as being obvious in view of Teper in combination with Strandberg.

(4) Status of Amendments

No claim amendments have been made since the mailing date of the final rejection.

(5) Summary of the invention

Embodiments of the present invention include novel methods and apparatuses for providing online services to a subscriber. The methods and apparatuses involve the novel association of a globally unique identifier (GUID) to each subscriber, and the novel conditioning of provision of service to the subscriber based on the subscriber's presentation of the associated GUI. Various embodiments also include novel arrangements for the subscriber to be able to roam, but remain able to access the services from different locations (using the associated GUID).

(6) Issues Presented

- I. Whether claims 1-4, 6, 9-13, 15-20 and 22-24 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §102?
- II. Whether claims 5, 7-8, 14 and 21 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103?

(7) Grouping of claims

For purposes of this appeal, based on the above listed grounds of rejection, all claims stand or fall as follows:

Group I – Claims 1-4, 6, 9-13, 15-20 and 22-24

Group II – Claims 5, 7-8, 14 and 21.

(8) Arguments

Rejection of claims 1-4, 6, 9-13, 15-20 and 22-24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) was improper because *Teper* failed to teach **at least one recited limitation** of each of these claims. In particular, *Teper* failed to anticipate at least the limitation of requiring the request for service access to include a GUID.

The law is well settled that anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires the disclosure in a single piece of prior art, **each and every** limitation of a claimed invention. See e.g. *Electro Med. Sys. S.A. v. Cooper Life Sciences*, 34 F.3d 1048, 1052, 32 USPQ2d 1017, 1019 (Fed. Cir. 1994). Thus to anticipate the present invention, *Teper*, the prior art relied upon by the Examiner, must disclose and teach each and every element of claims 1-4, 6, 9-13, 15-20 and 22-24.

Claim 1 recites

1 A method comprising:

receiving a request from a client to access a subscribed online service of a subscriber at an online service provider, said request comprising a globally unique identifier (GUID) of the subscriber;

determining if the GUID is associated with the subscriber; and

facilitating access to the subscribed online service of the subscriber if the GUID is associated with the subscriber (underline added).

For ease of discussion, hereinafter, the three operations shall be referred to as the RECEIVE, DETERMINE and FACILITATE operations, respectively, and the “request” shall be referred to as **request1**.

Thus, in accordance with the plain meaning of the language reciting the limitations, as understood by those of ordinary skill, the invention being claimed requires

a) a globally unique identifier (GUID) associated with a subscriber;

b) performance of the RECEIVE, DETERMINE and FACILITATE operations, all involving **request1** having the GUID.

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner relied on Teper (USP 5,815,665). In particular, the Examiner asserted that Teper anticipated the enumerated RECEIVE, DETERMINE and FACILITATE operations. Specifically, the Examiner asserted Teper's "unique identifier" anticipated the required GUID, and Teper's disclosure in col. 5, lines 56-60 and col. 6, lines 10-13, anticipated the required request for access having the required GUID.

As alluded to earlier, that terms of a claim, unless specifically defined otherwise by the specification, are to be accorded their plain meaning, as the terms are understood by those of ordinary skill in the art.

The term "GUID" is a well-known term of art, among those of ordinary skill. As previously explained to the Examiner, its plain meaning can be clearly established referencing e.g. the following excerpt of its definition from the well-known website Webopedia, which states

Short for **Globally Unique Identifier**, ... to identify a particular component, application, file, database entry, and/or user. For instance, a Web site may generate a GUID and assign it to a user's browser to record and track the session. A GUID is also used ... to identify COM, DLLs ... Windows also identifies user accounts by a username (computer/domain and username) and assigns it a GUID. Some database administrators even will use GUIDs as primary key values in databases.

GUIDs can be created in a number of ways, but usually they are a combination of a few unique settings based on specific point in time (e.g., an IP address, network MAC address, clock date/time, etc.). (Underline added.)

A computing device/system may have any number of applications, files, COM, DLL etc from any one of a number of sources (developers, providers etc.). However, because IP address, network MAC address, etc, when combined with clock date/time, will for all practical purposes be always unique, irrespective of developers, providers

and so forth. That's why when a GUID is assigned to a file, a COM, a DLL, etc, it can uniquely identify the file, COM, DLL etc, globally, across all developers, providers etc.

Thus, in the context of user identifiers, a GUID uniquely identifies a user globally, across ALL systems/services, like AOL, Yahoo, MSN, eTrade etc. However, as explained in the background section of the application, prior art services like AOL, Yahoo, MSN, eTrade etc. do not employ GUID to uniquely identify users. Each of these prior art services merely require identifiers that are unique within their respective universes. A user can register with AOL, Yahoo etc using the same user identifier, provided it is not already in use by others in each of the respective services. However, it is well known, some of the popular user identifiers, like "Hot Dude" identifies different users in different services, as a first user registers "Hot Dude" with AOL first, and another user registers "Hot Dude" with Yahoo first. In sum, prior art services DO NOT use globally unique user identifiers, they merely require user identifiers that are unique in their respective domains or universes.

Here, Teper's domain or universe is trusted brokering services, an improvement over brokering services offered by Charles Schwabe, Meryll Lynch, and the like. Nothing in Teper suggests that Teper has a need to require user id uniqueness beyond Teper's own domain. In fact, nothing in Teper suggests that Teper's user identifier is anything but a conventional user identifier employed by broker services of the Charles Schwabe, Meryll Lynch, and the like. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Teper's use of "unique id" must be accorded its conventional meaning of uniqueness within the broker service.

When responding to Applicants' arguments, the Examiner asserted that an Examiner "is allowed to broadly interpret the prior art". The Examiner's statement is a mis-characterization of the Examiner's authority. An Examiner is merely allowed to broadly interpret the prior art, within the confine governed by the law, as it is set forth by

the statutes passed by the Congress, and in accordance with the interpretations mandated by the Court.

In the instant case, the Examiner's attempt to equate Teper's unique id to Applicants' GUID clearly exceeds the "plain meaning as understood by those of ordinary skill in the art" requirement set forth by the Court, therefore, is overreaching, and should be overruled.

Further as Applicants have responded to the Examiner, even if we assume arguendo that Teper's notion of "unique ID" can be read as being synonymous with the term "GUID" recited in claim 1, Teper nevertheless failed to teach the "**request1**" limitation.

Neither of the passages relied on by the Examiner for anticipation of the RECEIVE operation (col 5, lines 56-60, and col. 6, lines 10-13), mentions anything about "receiving a request from a client ... comprising a globally unique identifier (GUID) of the subscriber".

Fundamentally, Teper teaches a method that involves first authenticating a user before permitting access to service. The process of authentication is described e.g. from col. 9, line 25 – col. 11, line 33, and the process of accessing service is described e.g. from col. 11, line 34 – col, 13, line 10.

In particular, starting in col. 11, line 33, Teper describes "This request may be in the form of a message from the client application 42 to the server application 52 ... the SP site uses the anonymous session ID ... to ask the Online Broker 60 to bill the user".

Accordingly, Teper at best can be read as having taught "requesting a service with the service comprising an anonymous session ID", and not the required "**request1**" of claim 1, which is required to comprise the GUID assigned to a subscriber.

Teper disclosed inclusion of the "unique ID" with the "negotiate" message (col . 9, lines 50-55. However, the "negotiate" message cannot be read as "a request to access a subscribed online service at an online service provider". The reason being, under

Teper, the subscribed online services of a subscriber are not made known to an online service provider until a user is authenticated. See col. 11, lines 15-20.

Accordingly, as asserted earlier, Teper failed to teach at least the first required limitation of “receiving a request to access a subscribed online service” operation, where “the request comprises the GUID of the subscriber”.

The law is also well settled that if there was anticipation, ***there should have been symmetry with infringement***, “That which infringes if later, anticipates if earlier”, see e.g. Kalman v Kimberly-Clark Corp., 713 F.2d 760, 772, 218 USPQ 781 (Fed Cir. 1983), cert denied, 465 U.S. 1026 (1984). In other words, if Teper, in particular, the cited passages have taught an element that anticipated the required element in claim 1, then Applicants should be able to find Teper, in particular, the cited passage infringing, had Teper been later than the application on appeal.

However, no such infringement can be found in the cited passage.

As Appellant has explained in a prior response, an infringing method must employ a **GUID** that uniquely identifies a user across all systems, all services, all communities, and so forth. Since Teper’s unique identifier is merely unique within Teper’s community, Teper does not infringe on Applicants’ claim.

Given Teper cannot be found as infringing on Applicants’ claim, had Teper be later than Applicants, there is no symmetry between Teper and Applicants’ teachings. Without symmetry, there could be no anticipation by Teper. Without anticipation by Teper, claim 1 is patentable under 102(b).

Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Teper.

Claims 11 and 18 include the same ***“request1”*** limitation of claim 1, accordingly, for at least the same reasons, claims 11 and 18 are patentable over Teper.

Claims 2-4, 6, 8-10, 12-13, 15-17, 19-20, and 22-24 depend on claims 1, 11, or 18, incorporating its limitations. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons, claims 2-4, 6, 8-10, 12-13, 15-17, 19-20, and 22-24 are patentable over Teper.

Additionally, dependent claims 2-4, 6, 8-10, 12-13, 15-17, 19-20, and 22-24 are further patentable over Teper because of the respective additional limitations required.

For examples, claims 2, 12 and 19 are further patentable over Teper, because Teper failed to teach the required “receiving of a request for roaming capability” as well as “the request comprising an email address” (hereinafter **“request2”**).

In paragraph 2 of the rejection, the Examiner continued to assert that Teper teaches “roaming capability” because the Examiner interprets the term to mean “access to online service is being made available to more than one user, due to Applicants’ disclosure in page 11, 3rd paragraph of the specification.

Again, the Examiner’s interpretation is totally contrary to the plain meaning of the passage referenced, as well as other passages that expand on the meaning of term “roaming”. The reference passage recites

“one or more users may access one or more online services without regard for a particular client, i.e., roaming capability is provided to the one or more users allowing the access and utilization of one or more services from any client in any location”

Applicants submit no one ordinarily skilled in the art would read and understand the language to mean “the meaning” the Examiner attributed to this passage. Instead, person ordinarily skilled in the art would clearly understand “roaming” to mean a user being able to access the one or more service from any client in any location, especially in view of other complementary usage of the term throughout the specification, such as the discussion running from the last paragraph of page 13 through the second full paragraph of page 14.

In the “response to argument” section, the Examiner appears to agree with Applicants’ asserted proper interpretation of the term “roaming”, but asserted that the limitations are nonetheless anticipated as 7:40-65 of Teper teaches Internet access, and 8:1-20 teaches ‘email capability’.

Applicants agree with the Examiner that the referenced passages teach a user’s ability to access the same services from different locations, therefore teaches ‘roaming’. However, whether Teper teaches “roaming” is not the totality of the patentability issue of claims 2, 12, and 19. These claims require the “roaming” capability to be provided with the user having to transmit a **request** for the capability. Moreover, the **request** is required to include an email address for the service to **effectuate** the roaming ability. As the provided email address is employed to deposit the subscriber’s GUID, thereby allowing the subscriber to retrieve the GUID and access the subscriber service from another location. The novel arrangement provides for “seamless” access from anywhere. Accordingly, the required **request**² to invoke roaming service is neither taught nor suggested by Teper.

Claims 3, 13 and 20 are also further patentable over Teper, because Teper failed to teach the required limitation of “said facilitating comprises sending an email, including the GUID associated with the subscriber, to the email address”. The limitation does not merely recites transmission of email. As discussed earlier, it requires the employment of an email having the GUID, sent to an email address associated with a “roaming capability” to make possible roaming for the user (“said facilitating comprises”).

Col. 9, lines 55-57 merely teach sending billing statements to a user via email. In the cases of col. 10, lines 51-57 and col. 3, lines 14-16, neither contain any teaching that has anything to do with email, and certainly not the recited required use of the email, having a GUID to effectuate roaming access.

In summary, Applicants respectfully draw the Board's attention to the fact that the issue is not just whether Teper teaches transmission of email with a GUID. The issue is whether Teper teaches or suggests a "roaming" provision method that requires the access process to include an operation of the service that sends an email with the user's GUID to enable the user to access the service from another location.

Applicants respectfully submit the required limitation is not taught nor suggested.

Rejection of claims 5, 7-8, 14 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(3) was improper because Teper failed to teach or suggest what is claimed.

Claims 5, 14 and 21 are dependent on claims 1, 11, and 18, and incorporating their limitations respectively. Therefore, claims 5, 14 and 21 are patentable over Teper. Since Strandberg does not cure Teper's deficiency in teachings, claims 5, 14 and 21 are patentable over Teper even when combined with Stranberg

Moreover, claims 5, 14 and 21 are further patentable over Teper and Strandberg, because both failed to teach or suggest the required limitation of "said facilitating comprises sending an email with an uniform resource locator (URL) of the online service provider to the email address". The limitation does not merely recite sending either an email or a URL. Instead the limitation clearly recites require "the transmission of an email with the URL of the service provider to make possible roaming ("said facilitating comprises")".

Col. 9, lines 38-46 of Teper may have disclosed URL of a service provider, but col. 9, lines 55-57 of Teper merely disclosed "emailing the billing statement" to the subscriber. There is no teaching in either reference on "emailing the URL of the service provider". In particular, there is no teaching in either reference on "emailing the URL of the service provider" to enable roaming by the subscriber.

Applicants respectfully submit the required is limitation is not taught nor suggested by the cited references.

(9) Conclusion

Appellants respectfully submit that all the appealed claims in this application are patentable and requests that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences overrule the Examiner and direct allowance of the rejected claims.

(10) Epilogue

This brief is submitted in triplicate, along with a check for \$165 to cover the filing of appeal brief fee for a small entity as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(c). We do not believe any fees, in particular extension of time fees, are needed. However, should that be necessary, please charge our Deposit Account No. 500393.

In addition, please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, P.C.

Dated: May 21, 2004



By Aloysius AuYeung, Reg No. 35,432
Attorney for Appellant Applicants

Appendix A – Claims As Pending

1. (Original) A method comprising:

receiving a request from a client to access a subscribed online service of a subscriber at an online service provider, said request comprising a globally unique identifier (GUID) of the subscriber;

determining if the GUID is associated with the subscriber; and

facilitating access to the subscribed online service of the subscriber if the GUID is associated with the subscriber.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining if a request for roaming capability is received, said request for roaming capability includes an email address; and

facilitating the roaming capability utilizing the received email address upon so determining.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said facilitating comprises sending an email, including the GUID associated with the subscriber, to the email address.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the method further comprises storing the GUID including email at an email service provider hosting said email address.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said facilitating comprises sending an email with an uniform resource locator (URL) of the online service provider to the email address.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said GUID is stored in a cookie at the client.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises retrieving the GUID from an email stored at an email service provider.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said retrieval is performed from a subsequent location that is different from an original location where the subscriber caused said email to be stored at said email service provider or from the same original location after the subscriber reconfigured the original location.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving subscription data including the GUID; and
associating the GUID with the subscriber.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said receiving of subscription data comprises the user filling out fields of a web site of the online service provider.

11.(Original) A storage medium having stored therein a plurality of instructions that are machine executable, wherein when executed, said executing instructions operate to receive a request from a client to access subscribed online services of a subscriber at an online service provider, said request comprising a globally unique identifier (GUID) of the subscriber, determine if the GUID is associated with the subscriber, and facilitate access to the subscribed online services of the subscriber if the GUID is determined to be associated with the subscriber.

12.(Original) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said executing instructions further operate to determine if a request for roaming capability is received, said request for roaming capability includes an email address, and facilitate the roaming capability utilizing the received email address upon so determining.

13.(Original) The storage medium of claim 12, wherein said executing instructions operate to send an email, including the GUID associated with the subscriber, to the email address.

14.(Original) The storage medium of claim 12, wherein said executing instructions operate to send an email with an uniform resource locator (URL) of the online service provider to the email address.

15. (Original) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said executing instructions further operate to cause the GUID to be stored as a cookie at the client.

16. (Original) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said executing instructions further operate to receive subscription data including the GUID, and associate the GUID with the subscriber.

17. (Original) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said executing instructions operate to receive the subscription data as filled out fields of a web site of the online service provider.

18. (Original) An apparatus comprising:

a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of instructions that are machine executable, wherein when executed, said executing instructions operate to receive a request from a client to access subscribed online services of a subscriber at an online service provider, said request comprising a globally unique identifier (GUID) of the client, determine if the GUID is associated with the subscriber, and facilitate access to the subscribed online services of the subscriber if the GUID is determined to be associated with the subscriber; and

a processor coupled to said storage medium to execute said instructions.

19.(Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said executing instructions further operate to determine if a request for roaming capability is received, said request for roaming capability includes an email address, and facilitate the roaming capability utilizing the received email address upon so determining.

20.(Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said executing instructions operate to send an email, including the GUID associated with the subscriber, to the email address.

21.(Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said executing instructions operate to send an email with an uniform resource locator (URL) of the online service provider to the email address.

22.(Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said executing instructions further operate to cause the GUID to be stored in a cookie at the client.

23.(Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said executing instructions further operate to receive subscription data including the GUID, and associate the GUID with the subscriber.

24.(Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said executing instructions operate to receive the subscription data as filled out fields of a web site of the online service provider.